

Student Handout #2

“The Many Faces of Sexual Assault” Video Script

Scene 1-3

NARRATOR

"A person is sexually assaulted in the United States every 45 seconds..."

"78% of sexual assault victims are women, and 22% are men..."

"Only 16% of these attacks are ever reported to police."

NARRATOR

683,000 women are sexually assaulted every year in the U.S.

NARRATOR

And the numbers are rising.

Scene 4-7, Scenario 1

INT - NIGHT – BARRACKS

PVT Jessica Banks is watching television as she starches her shirt. She shakes can of starch, tries to spray, nothing comes out. She tosses the can in the trash and turns to go borrow more from SPC Kate Casey (her squad-mate) in the room next door.

INT - NIGHT - BARRACKS HALLWAY

PVT Banks comes from her room and hears yelling and sounds of a struggle in the next room. She knocks on door.

PVT BANKS

"Kate? It's Jessica..."

When sound is quickly muffled inside the room, PVT Banks flings open the door and sees frightened, disheveled SPC Casey with torn clothes being held against the wall or on the bed or floor with her mouth covered by Staff Sergeant Foley. He immediately gets up and rushes out the door. SPC Casey crumples to the floor and begins to cry, there's blood running from her nose and her clothes are in disarray.

PVT BANKS

"Are you hurt? Talk to me. Tell me what happened!"

SPC CASEY

"I can't talk now. Please, I just need to be alone."

When PVT Banks hands SPC Casey a tissue and tries to comfort her, she recoils and yells.

PVT BANKS

"Here, you're bleeding."

SPC CASEY

"I said GO AWAY!!"

PVT Banks backs away. SPC Casey tries to get up, but collapses. Pan to a photo of SPC Casey that has been knocked to the floor and broken during the struggle.

NARRATOR

"It can happen where Soldiers live or work. When they're relaxing in the barracks, celebrating at a club, or working exhausting hours in the field. But even if a sexual assault only lasts a minute, its impact can last for the rest of the victim's life."

Comment from on-camera interview with SPC Casey sometime after the assault.

SPC CASEY

"After it happened, I blamed myself. I felt like I had done something wrong.

Comment from on-camera interview with PVT Banks sometime after the assault."

PVT BANKS

"He was our squad leader. Kate was afraid of what would happen if she reported him.

More interview with SPC Casey."

SPC CASEY

"I went over and over it in my mind, trying to figure out what I did to make him attack me like that.

More interview with PVT Banks."

PVT BANKS

"I couldn't believe she was blaming herself. All she was doing was studying in her room."

SPC CASEY

"I remember just wanting to clean up, to wash away the whole experience."

PVT BANKS

"I should have stopped her from showering and changing clothes. That destroys evidence. I should have insisted she go straight to the emergency room. And I should have called the MPs."

Comment from on-camera interview with PFC James

PFC JAMES

"I heard rumors about what happened, but when I saw her in the laundry room later, she seemed fine. If she were really assaulted, wouldn't she have been more upset?"

PVT BANKS

"I was a witness. It was my duty to report it, even if she couldn't bring herself to turn him in."

Comment from on-camera interview with MP (Female)

MP

"If they had called, we would have responded and begun an investigation..."

Scene 8-13, Scenario 2

INT - DAY - VENDING MACHINE AREA

Specialist John Reynos gets soda from machine. Specialist Gordon walks up behind him, counting the change in her hand.

NARRATOR

"In the Army, victims of sexual assault are likely to know the alleged perpetrator of the assault."

SPC GORDON

"Can you believe it? I'm ten cents short."

He gives her two nickels.

SPC REYNOS

"Must be your lucky day--I just happen to have ten cents with your name on it."

She puts the money in the machine and a drink comes out.

SPC GORDON

"Thanks."

SPC REYNOS

"We're still on for our date tonight?"

SPC GORDON

"I'll see you at eight... IN my new dress!"

They go separate ways...

EXT - NIGHT - BAR PARKING LOT ESTABLISHER

We can hear the sounds of people laughing and talking, glasses clinking and rap music emanating from a jukebox...

INT - NIGHT - BAR

SPC Gordon and SPC Reynos sit at a table drinking. Both are now wearing civilian clothing.

SPC REYNOS

"...so after she left me for my best friend, I decided to join the Army."

SPC GORDON

"And I am very glad you did. So would you watch my drink while I go to the ladies' room?"

SPC REYNOS

(raising his glass in a mock toast)

"I'll be counting the seconds 'til you return."

As soon as SPC Gordon leaves, SPC Reynos takes a capsule from his pocket and drops it into her drink.

Later that evening... tilt down from light fixture or beer sign in bar to reveal SPC Reynos resting her head in her hands. SPC Gordon walks up with more drinks.

SPC REYNOS

"Don't tell me you're fading out on me already!"

SPC GORDON

"All of a sudden, I'm feeling a little sick."

SPC Gordon stands and has to grab the table to steady herself. SPC Reynos gets up to help.

SPC REYNOS

"Careful there. Maybe I better drive you home..."

INT - NIGHT - BARRACKS ROOM

SPC Reynos swings the semi-conscious SPC Gordon's legs up on the bed as her torso falls back.

SPC REYNOS

"There. That's better. Let's make you a little more comfortable."

He starts to unbutton her shirt. Camera moves to the darkened window as we hear SPC Gordon mumble...

SPC GORDON

"No... Stop... I just need to sleep. Stop, no..."

INT - DAY - SAME BARRACKS ROOM

Same window, hand opens blind and light floods in showing it is now day. Widen shot to reveal PFC Burrows opening blinds, then picking up SPC Gordon's dress, etc. from the floor.

PFC BURROWS

"Hey, Sleeping Beauty, 1300, rise and shine. You must have been really wasted last night... Janice said your new man pretty much had to carry you in here. And you threw your new dress on the floor... That's not like you at all..."

SPC Gordon raises her groggy face and looks under the covers--realizes she has no clothes on.

SPC GORDON

(upset)

"My dress? I don't remember taking off my clothes... I don't remember coming back here- I don't remember anything except stumbling to the car and feeling drugged."

PFC BURROWS

"Drugged? Please tell me you didn't leave your drink with your date!"

Comments from on-camera interviews sometime after the assault.

SPC GORDON

"I thought date rape was something some horrible, filthy person would do. John was a nice, smart, funny guy. He is, WAS, a friend. How could he do this to me?"

PFC BURROWS

"She admitted she was drinking. He says the sex was consensual. Who am I supposed to believe?"

SPC GORDON

"The blood tests showed Rohypnol in my system. Do people think that I took it myself? Who else but John would have given me the "date rape" drug?"

Scene 13-16, Scenario 3

EXT - DAY - FIELD EXERCISE AREA

1LT Melton (Male in uniform), and CPT Gray (Female in uniform) come into the tent at the end of long day.

NARRATOR

"Sexual assault doesn't always involve physical force and injury. It also has a more subtle side."

CPT GRAY

"What a week. I am so exhausted."

1LT MELTON

"Me too. I gotta find a way to relax."

INT - DAY - TENT

Inside of tent as the two enter.

CPT GRAY

"I know a great way to reduce stress..."

1LT MELTON

"Oh yeah?"

CPT GRAY

(softly)

"Yeah..."

She inappropriately grabs him.

1LT MELTON

"Whoa...What are you doing? Ma'am, don't ever do that again. EVER!"

He turns angrily and hurries from the tent.

Comments from on-camera interviews sometime after the assault.

1LT MELTON

"Sure we were close. When you work side-by-side day-after-day, you get close. But I always saw it as a professional relationship. What she did by grabbing me in my genital area really came out of the blue. I couldn't believe it. Nobody but my wife is allowed to get THAT personal with me."

CPT GRAY

"It was no big deal. It's been a long deployment. We were both tired. We were lonely. I thought he would be receptive."

1LT MELTON

"How can we work as a team, when she does something stupid and demeaning like that?"

CPT GRAY

"He definitely overreacted."

Scene 17-19, Scenario 4

EXT - NIGHT - SOLDIER'S HOME

A dog barks somewhere down the street as SFC Jamison (Male Soldier, in uniform, husband of victim) comes up the steps, drunk and singing.

NARRATOR

"Soldiers can be victims of sexual assault. They can be witnesses to sexual assault. And they can commit sexual assault themselves, permanently scarring people they claim to love."

INT - NIGHT - SOLDIER'S HOME

Mrs. Jamison (Wife of Soldier in civilian clothing--nightclothes) comes to the door and opens it to let her drunk husband in.

MRS. JAMISON

"SHHH--Be quiet. You'll wake up the baby!!"

SFC JAMISON

"Forget the baby. How bout a little lovin' for the Daddy..."

MRS. JAMISON

"You're drunk and disgusting, go sleep it off."

He follows her down the hall and pushes her toward the bedroom door. She resists initially, but he overpowers her as he pushes her into the darkened bedroom."

MRS. JAMISON

"I said NO-NO! Not again . . . You're hurting me."

Comments from on-camera interviews sometime after the assault.

SFC JAMISON

"How can they call it rape? Wives are supposed to have sex with their husbands. I provide for my wife and kid. I do my duty. Why won't she do hers?"

MRS. JAMISON

"I have a child to consider. He's the breadwinner. He's the one who puts a roof over our heads. If he leaves us, what would we do? How could I face my family?"

SFC JAMISON

"It's a wife's duty to have sex with her husband. I know she enjoyed it."

MRS. JAMISON

"Even though I was getting hurt, I didn't want to make problems with the military for my husband. My husband's career is our life. I thought saying something would jeopardize our future forever."

Comment from Counselor (Female in civilian clothing)

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNSELOR

"I counsel a lot of military spouses because they aren't comfortable reporting sexual assault through military channels...It's crucial that the Army create an environment of zero tolerance for sexual assault so spouses will feel that they can come forward."

MRS. JAMISON

"For a long time, I was afraid to tell anyone what was happening to me. I figured that even if I got the courage to tell, nothing would be done."

Scene 20-24, Scenario 5

EXT - NIGHT – BARRACKS

NARRATOR

"Statistics show that in most cases, Soldiers who are victims of sexual assault have been drinking at the time of the attack."

Two Soldiers, Specialist Garcia (Male Enlisted Soldier, not in uniform) and Specialist Selby (Male Enlisted Soldier, not in uniform), get out of car, rowdy and drunk. Driver yells at them, Garcia slams the door.

VOICE OF DRIVER

"Get outta my car, before you puke again!"

SPC SELBY

"Ok, ok, lighten up..."

INT - NIGHT - BARRACKS

SPC Garcia and Selby come into a room in the barracks.

SPC GARCIA

"I thought I was gonna get to go home with that babe in the red dress."

SPC SELBY

"Yeah, in your dreams..."

When they get to the room, SPC Selby passes out on the bed.

SPC GARCIA

"Hey that's my bed, bud. Get up... c'mon get up. Geez."

When he can't get SPC Selby up, Garcia falls down on the couch and goes to sleep.

Comment from on-camera interview with SPC Garcia sometime after the assault.

SPC GARCIA

"At first, I thought I was dreaming. Nothing so awful had ever happened to me before..."

INT - NIGHT - BARRACKS HALLWAY

SPC GARCIA

(muffled, from inside room)

"What are you doin', Man? Gross... GET OFF OF ME!!"

SPC Selby hurries out of the room, and passes a Male Enlisted Soldier, not in uniform coming down the hall.

SPC Garcia comes angrily out of the room.

SPC GARCIA

"Yeah, you better run, before I kill you!!!"

He hits the wall with his fist.

SOLDIER

(passing by in hall)

"What's up, Juan?"

SPC GARCIA

"Nothin, man, NOTHIN! Just forget it!"

Comments from on-camera interviews sometime after the assault.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNSELOR

"Often victims are reluctant to report sexual assault, because of where they were and what they were doing when it happened."

SPC GARCIA

"I'm only 19. I was afraid if I told anyone, I'd be busted for underage drinking. But then I decided it was more important to keep the same thing from happening to someone else."

Comment from Leader-Staff Sergeant Henley-(Male NCO, in uniform)

STAFF SERGEANT HENLEY

"When Specialist Garcia called me at three o'clock in the morning, I should have reported it right away. But he told me he didn't want it reported, and I was afraid of violating his privacy. I didn't know what to do."

STAFF SERGEANT HENLEY

"In the back of my mind, I couldn't help but wonder if it had been consensual. Garcia never had been a model Soldier, so I thought it was just par for the course with him. I also wondered if he had made it all up."

SPC GARCIA

"I know I can be a screw-up, but it was important to me that people believed my side of the story. I needed help to get over what happened to me..."

Scene 25-28, Scenario 6

INT - DAY - FOOD COURT

NARRATOR

"When someone says NO, they mean NO. But when a minor is involved, YES also means NO."

SGT McCoy (22-year-old Male, in uniform) and SGT Green (22-year-old Male in uniform) stand with their trays in Food Court looking for a place to sit. There's a pretty young girl (Mariah-- Female civilian, family member) at a table. The two guys have seen her there before, and SGT McCoy has expressed interest. SGT Green points her out, urges him to go over, and heads off in another direction to give them some space.

SGT McCoy comes up to Mariah.

SGT MCCOY

"Hey there. Didn't I see you eating here yesterday?"

MARIAH

"Yeah, I noticed you too."

SGT MCCOY

"Mind if I join you?"

MARIAH

"Thought you'd never ask..."

He sits at the table with her and begins to eat.

SGT MCCOY

"You go to school at the college?"

MARIAH

(laughing)

"Try high school. I'm 15!"

SGT MCCOY

"Darlin', I must say you make 15 look mighty fine..."

EXT - NIGHT - SECLUDED AREA

"A car is parked in a darkened spot. SGT McCoy, in civilian clothes, and Mariah are kissing passionately."

SGT MCCOY

"So... you're OK with all of this?"

MARIAH

"I'm OK with all this and a whole lot more, Baby..."

Their heads disappear as they recline back onto the seat."

Comments from on-camera interviews sometime after the assault.

SGT MCCOY

"Sure she was younger, but she was all over me. She said it was OK. I didn't know I was doing anything wrong."

Comment from interview with JAG Officer (Male)

JAG OFFICER

"Legally, this girl couldn't give consent. Even though different states have different laws, the Army defines a minor as someone under the age of 16. This was sexual assault, clear and simple."

SGT GREEN

"I really felt for the guy. I've been in the same situation myself lots of times. What's happening to his career, could just as easily have happened to mine."

NARRATOR

"Life is full of situations that seem to fall into the gray areas between right and wrong. But when it comes to sexual assault, the Army's Policy is clear and absolute. No matter where it happens, no matter why it happens, no matter how it happens, no matter who it affects, sexual assault is a crime that will not be tolerated in the United States Army. We must find ways to prevent it. Respond to it immediately and sensitively. Investigate it aggressively and thoroughly. Insist on accountability. And create and promote a command climate that supports victims and insures that their rights are upheld."

Scene 29-30

Interview comments.

PVT BANKS

"By not reporting the assault on my squad mate, I ignored the Warrior Ethos. I truly did "leave a fallen comrade."

CPT GRAY

"In the Soldier's Creed we promise to "live Army values." What I did to my fellow Soldier broke that promise. I'm ashamed of what I did."

SPC GARCIA

"It was a horrible time for me, but the confidentiality and support I found in my chain of command made me all the more proud to be a Soldier."

INT - DAY - CLASSROOM

Actual classroom with Soldiers raising their hands and asking questions of a senior officer or NCO that's facilitating a session on sexual assault.

NARRATOR

"Now is the time to start a dialog about what constitutes sexual assault. Ask a question. Speak up and express your opinion. It's up to you as a Soldier to report sexual assault. It's up to you as a commander to ensure that victims' rights are protected."